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PROPOSED REVISIONS TO THE MEDIUM-TERM PLAN FOR THE PERIOD 1992-1997

MAJOR PROGRAMME VI. REGIONAL COOPERATION FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Programme 31. Regional cooperation for development in Asia and the Pacific

1. The preparation, format and content of the medium-term plan and its revisions are governed by the Regulations and Rules Governing Programme Planning, the Programme Aspects of the Budget, the Monitoring of Implementation and the Methods of Evaluation.

2. Regulation 3.11 provides, inter alia, that the medium-term plan shall be revised as necessary every two years to incorporate required programme changes and that the proposed revisions shall be as detailed as required to incorporate the programme implications of the resolutions and decisions adopted by the intergovernmental organs or international conferences since the adoption of the plan.

3. The revisions proposed below modify the relevant parts of the narrative of programme 31, Regional cooperation for development in Asia and the Pacific, of the medium-term plan for the period 1992-1997, which was adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 45/253 of 21 December 1990 and subsequently revised by the Assembly in its resolution 47/214 of 23 December 1992 and issued in document A/47/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

4. The following text modifies paragraphs 31.13, 31.17, 31.19, 31.20, 31.23, 31.24, 31.27, 31.30 to 31.33, 31.40, 31.43, 31.45, 31.50, 31.53, 31.57, 31.59 and 31.72 of A/47/6/Rev.1 and Corr.1.

B. Subprogrammes

SUBPROGRAMME 1. REGIONAL ECONOMIC COOPERATION

Paragraph 31.13 — At the end of the paragraph, add "; E/1993/36-E/ESCAP/927, paras. 164, 165, 167, 273-277 and 279); and the Delhi Declaration on Strengthening Regional Economic Cooperation in Asia and the Pacific towards the Twenty-first Century, adopted by the Commission at its fiftieth session (resolution 50/1)".

Paragraph 31.17 — In subparagraph (f), insert "commodities and" before "manufactures".

Paragraph 31.19 — At the end of the paragraph, add "Efforts would also continue to identify potential areas for regional economic cooperation, recommend appropriate policy options and assist the regional members and associate members of the Commission in implementing measures to achieve such cooperation."

Paragraph 31.20 — In the first sentence, under item (b), insert "primary" before "commodities" and replace "intermediate and higher technology" with "value-added products".

Under item (e), insert ", trade fairs" before "and facilitating measures" and add a new item (f) after "human resource development" as follows: "and (f) ensuring that environment and trade policies are mutually supportive, with a view to achieving sustainable development."

Paragraph 31.23 — In the first sentence, insert "the Economic Cooperation Organization" after "such as".

SUBPROGRAMME 2. THE ENVIRONMENT AND SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Paragraph 31.24 — In the first sentence add a reference to General Assembly resolutions 47/188 and 47/191, paragraph 27; to Commission resolutions 49/5 and 49/7; and to the report of the Commission (E/1992/31-E/ESCAP/889, paras. 307-320 and 461-497).

In the last sentence, after "the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development", insert ", in particular, the Rio Declaration and Agenda 21, as adopted at that Conference on 14 June 1992,".

Paragraph 31.27 — After the first sentence, insert "The population resource base, which is a crucial element in sustainable development, has to be coordinated since population, resources and environment are inextricably linked in the process of bringing about sustainable development. The

United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, held in 1992, pointed out that poverty, environment, resources, population and development could no longer be dealt with as separate issues and emphasized the integration of demographic trends and population factors in all aspects of sustainable development."

Paragraph 31.30

In subparagraph (a), insert "population and" after "integration of".

In subparagraph (d), replace "substitute oil and conserve energy as much as possible" with "substitute other resources for oil, promote efficiency in energy end-use and conserve energy as much as possible".

Paragraph 31.31

In the second sentence, insert "aimed at bringing about a balance between population, resources and socio-economic development" after "development of policies".

Paragraphs 31.32 and 31.33

Replace the paragraphs with the following:

"31.32 The Committee on Environment and Sustainable Development will serve as the major forum for promoting regional and subregional cooperation in environmental protection and sustainable development of energy and natural resources, taking into account the diversity of national situations in the ESCAP region. The Committee will establish liaison with other agencies, organizations and bodies at the subregional, regional and global levels, particularly with the Commission on Sustainable Development. It will work closely with other subsidiary organs of ESCAP and coordinate activities with them. Closer coordination and effective joint programming among United Nations bodies and agencies, intergovernmental organizations and bilateral donor agencies/Governments will be promoted through the Inter-agency Committee on Environment and Development.

"31.33 In the area of mineral resource development, activities will address the need for integration of environmental considerations into planned mineral resource exploration and development, and responsible land use, through training, the exchange of information, the provision of technical advice and the strengthening of relevant national and regional institutions; the preparation of reviews, studies and maps on geology and land use, mineral resources and potential, mineral economics and trade, solid and hazardous waste management relevant to the mining industry, current and emerging waste management practices and policies for recycling, reconditioning and reprocessing of mineral wastes for their future economic utilization, and geological aspects of

confinement of untreatable wastes; and the provision of advisory services in the formulation of national policies, strategies and programmes for the environmental management and development of mineral resources and land use, including a review of mining codes and related legislation and the promotion of foreign investment."

SUBPROGRAMME 3. POVERTY ALLEVIATION THROUGH ECONOMIC GROWTH AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Paragraph 31.40 — Add a reference to Commission resolutions 48/4, on the Fourth Asian and Pacific Population Conference, 1992, and 49/4, endorsing the recommendations of the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development and calling for follow-up action, and to the annual reports of the Commission (E/1988/35-E/ESCAP/644, para. 180; E/1992/31-E/ESCAP/889, paras. 498-520; and E/1993/36-E/ESCAP/927, paras. 225-246).

Paragraph 31.43 — In the second sentence, insert "reduce high rates of population growth and" after "need to" and "economic" after "context of".

Paragraph 31.45 — At the end of subparagraph (f), add ", as called for in the Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development".

Paragraph 31.50 — In the first sentence, insert ", resources" before "and the environment" and "data and information" after "mortality".

In the second sentence, replace "Asia-Pacific Call for Action on Population and Development" with "Bali Declaration on Population and Sustainable Development".

In the fourth sentence, insert "and management of" before "population information systems".

At the end of the paragraph, add "Various monographs and periodicals will be published and disseminated to increase understanding of population and development issues."

SUBPROGRAMME 4. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

Paragraph 31.53 — Add a reference to General Assembly resolutions 48/11, 50/1, 50/2 and 50/8 and to the reports of the Commission (E/1992/31-E/ESCAP/889, paras. 453, 455, 457, 590, 591, 599 and 601; E/1993/36-E/ESCAP/927, paras. 185 and 189; and E/1994/36, Supplement No. 16, paras. 9, 17 and 20).

Paragraph 31.57 — Replace subparagraph (b) with the following:

"(b) To increase national capabilities in institutional development, including the formulation of development strategies, improvement of transport and communications operations; human resource development; development of multimodal transport and logistics; promotion of commercialization, corporatization, privatization and liberalization; consideration of environmental, health and safety factors in transport development programmes; urban transport development in line with the themes and related issues identified for phase II (1992-1996) of the Transport and Communications Decade for Asia and the Pacific."

Paragraph 31.59

In the first sentence, insert ", commercial and or operational" after "legal".

In the second sentence, add ", and economies in transition" after "island developing countries".

At the end of the paragraph, add "It will also pay special attention to the development of rural infrastructure."

SUBPROGRAMME 6. LEAST DEVELOPED, LAND-LOCKED AND ISLAND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES

Paragraph 31.72

Add a reference to General Assembly resolution 47/186 and Commission resolution 49/8.